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Local and spring floras

The increased demand for convenient and relatively inexpensive handbooks dealing with the flora of limited areas, particularly in the western states, has led to the publication of several local floras which deserve notice. Among these are: (1) PETERSEN'S³ *Flora of Nebraska*, in which the author seeks to present a list of "all conifers and flowering plants, both native and introduced, which grow without cultivation in Nebraska." The enumeration of species is preceded by keys leading to their determination, and their distribution in the state is indicated. Formal descriptions, however, are omitted. (2) GARRETT'S⁴ *Spring flora of the Wasatch region*, in which the author's aim is "to furnish a flora containing practically all the plants of a limited area that bloom during the spring months" or by the middle of June. The main object of this book is to stimulate the student to a study of the vernal flora of the "eastern edge of the Great Basin." The treatment of genera and species is conservative and reliable, and synonyms are introduced when clearness may be gained thereby. (3) NELSON'S⁵ *Spring flora of the intermountain states*. In this book no pretense is made to include all the flowering plants of the spring season, but rather "some of the plants that bloom early in the year." It is intended to serve merely as an introduction to the flora of the region outlined, namely Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, and adjacent parts of Idaho, Oregon, and Utah; and in connection with it the author recommends the use of more complete manuals for reference.

These little volumes are of portable size, convenient for field work, and no doubt will be helpful to the student in gaining an introductory knowledge of the flora of the regions to which they appertain.—J. M. GREENMAN.

Forests of Nova Scotia

In anticipation of adopting a definite policy of conservation of its forest resources, a survey of the existing conditions has been made by Nova Scotia.⁶ The importance of such an undertaking is seen to be very great when it is realized that 80 per cent, or 14,000 square miles, of the province consists of non-agricultural land covered with forests, or fit only for that purpose, and that this resource, furnishing some five millions of dollars in value of annual

³ PETERSEN, N. F., *Flora of Nebraska*. A list of the conifers and flowering plants of the state with keys for their determination. 8vo. pp. 217. Published by the author, Lincoln, Neb.: Printed by the State Printing Co. 1912.

⁴ GARRETT, A. O., *Spring flora of the Wasatch region*. 2d ed. 8vo. pp. xii+139. Lancaster, Pa.: New Era Printing Co. 1912.

⁵ NELSON, AVEN, *Spring flora of the intermountain states*. 8vo. pp. xv+204. Boston: Ginn & Co. 1912.

⁶ FERNOW, B. E., HOWE, C. D., and WHITE, J. H., *Forest conditions of Nova Scotia*. Imp. 8vo. pp. v+93. pls. 12. maps 5. Commission of Conservation, Ottawa, Canada. 1912.